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Amendment & Response

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AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 10-20.

Please add new claims 21-31 as follows:

21. (New) A test kit useful for detecting a target polynucleotide in a test sample, comprising:

a container containing at least one reagent polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

Sub
D17

22. (New) The test kit of claim 21 further comprising:

tools useful for the collection of the test sample, the tools selected from the group consisting of lancets, absorbent paper, cloth, swabs and cups.

23. (New) A purified polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NOS:1-8, SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

B1
Sub
D2

24. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

25. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by synthetic techniques.

26. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence encoding at least one epitope.

27. (New) A recombinant expression system comprising a nucleic acid sequence that includes an open reading frame operably linked to a control sequence compatible with a desired host, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NOS:1-8, SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

28. (New) A cell transfected with the recombinant expression system of claim 27.

29. (New) A cell transfected with a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one epitope, the nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NOS:1-8, SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

30. (New) A composition of matter comprising a purified polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NOS:1-8, SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NOS:1-8, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

31. (New) A purified gene comprising DNA having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:10, complete complements of SEQ ID NO:10 and degenerate coding sequences thereof.